

**SOUTH CAROLINA EDUCATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**  
**Minutes of the Meeting**  
**February 13, 2006**

Members present: Mr. Staton, Mr. Martin, Mrs. Cooper, Rep. Cotty, Mr. Drew, Senator Fair, Mr. Hall, Mrs. Iacovelli, Mrs. Marlowe, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Stowe, Superintendent Tenenbaum, Rep. Walker, and Senator Williams

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

Mr. Staton welcomed members and guests to the meeting.

**II. Approval of the Minutes**

The minutes of the December 2005 meeting were approved as distributed.

**III. Election of a Chairperson**

Mr. Martin reported on behalf of the nominating committee. The committee proposed Harold Stowe for the office of chairman. Rep. Walker moved that the nominations be closed and that Mr. Stowe be elected by acclamation. The motion passed. Mr. Stowe assumed the chair.

**IV. Subcommittee Reports**

**A. Academic Standards and Assessments:**

1. School Profile Information: Mr. Staton reported on behalf of the subcommittee. He outlined two changes to the report card profile: the elimination of the percentage of students tested off-level on elementary and middle school report cards and the inclusion of the foreign language program assessment on the high school report cards. The changes were approved as recommended by the subcommittee.

2. Question regarding High School Students with IEPs: Mr. Martin raised questions about the inclusion of high school students with IEPs indicating they are not pursuing a diploma in the calculation of the longitudinal exit examination percentages and graduation rates. Dr. Anderson, Mr. Potter and Superintendent Tenenbaum provided information. Further information is to be provided after a review of federal reporting requirements.

3. Primary School Ratings: Mr. Staton presented changes to the calculation of the primary school ratings. Members of the committee discussed the lack of results or outcome measures for the primary schools. Mr. Staton moved approval. The motion passed.

4. High School Ratings: Mr. Staton presented changes to the calculation of ratings for high schools. Results on the end-of-course assessments are to replace the use of the LIFE scholarship. The motion to approve passed. Mr. Staton indicated two other recommendations regarding end-of-course assessments: the timing for inclusion of the U S. history test scores and the timing for the inclusion of end-of-course assessments in the district rating. The members took no action.

5. Career Technology Center Ratings: Mr. Staton presented information detailing the delay of changes to the ratings for career and technology centers until the Perkins (federal) changes were defined.

6. AYP Performance and School Ratings: Mr. Staton drew members' attention to the information sheet on the linkage between AYP and school ratings.

7. Biology Standard B. 5: Mr. Staton presented a report from the subcommittee on the high school biology standard B.5. The subcommittee recommended (1) not approving the four indicators upon which action had been deferred and (2) communicating to members of the State Board of Education the concerns and at least one idea of how those concerns could be addressed in a revision (i.e., revise the standard statement to read "The student will demonstrate an understanding of biological evolution and the diversity of life by using data from a variety of scientific sources to investigate and critically analyze aspects of evolutionary theory."). Members of the committee participated in a lengthy discussion. The motion to disapprove passed by a vote of 10-2.

8. Request of SDE: Mrs. Marlowe requested information about professional development on the standards. Dr. Anderson indicated she would work with SDE representatives to obtain the needed information.

B. EIA and Improvement Mechanisms: Mr. Stowe reported on behalf of the Subcommittee. He drew members' attention to the Final Report of the Evaluation of the External Review Teams. He also outlined the differences between the EOC budget recommendations and Governor Sanford's recommendations.

C. Parent Involvement: Mr. Hall indicated there was no report.

D. Public Awareness: Mr. Martin indicated there was no report.

**V. Update on the Education and Economic Development Act**

Dr. James Couch, SDE, provided members with a progress report on the implementation of the Education and Economic Development Act. Mr. Martin serves as the EOC representative on the advisory board.

**VI. Report from a Key Constituency**

Mrs. Helen Meyers outlined the role and functions of the Council on Economic Education, emphasizing the Council's role in influencing curriculum and developing teachers.

**VII. New Business**

A. Annual Report: Mr. Stowe drew members' attention to the draft annual report and asked for comments.

B. Legislation Pending: Dr. Anderson outlined several pending bills (testing, resolution on early childhood and district consolidation) and the progress of each.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.